

HOUSE RESOLUTION 48

By Bunch

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend Leann Smalley on the occasion of her daughter's receipt of the Yes I Can! award.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to honor those exemplary citizens who have given unreservedly of themselves in service of their families; and

WHEREAS, Leann Smalley is most assuredly one such outstanding citizen who is richly deserving of this Body's commendation; and

WHEREAS, Leann Smalley, a single parent, has lovingly cared for her daughter, Rachel Smalley, instilling in her self-confidence, compassion for others, and the determination to accomplish her goals; and

WHEREAS, Rachel has recently been honored by the Foundation for Exceptional Children with the Yes I Can! award; she is one of 35 students from across the United States, Canada, and the former Soviet Union who has been selected to receive this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, The Yes I Can! awards are presented each year at the Council for Exceptional Children's annual convention to recognize the accomplishments of children and youth who have overcome their disability and have made extraordinary accomplishments in the

categories of art, academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, community service, employment, and independent living skills; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Smalley is being recognized for her achievements in the area of employment; in addition to her academic responsibilities, she has worked a full-time job while attending high school; and

WHEREAS, Rachel is employed as an Individual Support Specialist with Bradley/Cleveland Services, and is responsible for providing on-going support for those clients who are cognitively-challenged, yet live on their own; she helps clients with their grocery shopping, housekeeping, physician appointments, and other basic life skills while also offering them much needed support and friendship; and

WHEREAS, She is a remarkable young woman, who has triumphed over her own adversities, and now works to help others accomplish the same; and

WHEREAS, Her mother, Leann Smalley has been a shining example of strength, offering Rachel love, guidance, and the space to grow; from her mother's example, Rachel Smalley has learned how to live a life of purpose and joy; and

WHEREAS, Upon the occasion of her daughter's much deserved recognition, this General Assembly would like to honor Leann Smalley for her amazing spirit, for the encouragement and support she gives to Rachel, and for the example her life provides to her daughter and to all who know her; and

WHEREAS, She exemplifies the best traits of motherhood and good citizenship; this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Leann Smalley; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor Leann Smalley upon the occasion of her daughter's receipt of the Yes I Can! Award; commend her on her life of courage, dedication, and beauty; and praise her for instilling these admirable

qualities in her daughter, Rachel Smalley, and for helping her become the extraordinary young woman she is today.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to Leann Smalley and Rachel Smalley our best wishes for every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.